

Message Text

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 137439

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRASILIA 4653 ACTION SECSTATE, JUNE 26TH:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 4653

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UGEN, UNCTAD, BR

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TRANSFER OF
TECHNOLOGY - REPORT NO. 2

1. LATIN AMERICAN GROUP CAUCUSED THIS MORNING TO LISTEN TO MEXICAN PROPOSAL FOR ADVANCING TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER, SECOND WORKING SESSION CONVENED AT OUTSET OF WHICH CHIEF U.S. DELEGATION REVIEWED DETAILED U.S. PROPOSAL FOR COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY (CSTT).

2. REACTION OF LATIN DELEGATIONS (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE, MEXICO, JAMAICA, URUGUAY) GENERALLY NEGATIVE. CRITICISMS VOICED INCLUDE: (1) U.S. PROPOSALS CONTAINS NOTHING NEW AND IS NOT RESPONSIVE TO SPIRIT OF "NEW DIALOGUE"; (2) COMMISSION AS OUTLINED DOES NOT REPRESENT SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE OVER WHAT ALREADY FUNCTIONING INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES ARE DOING.

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(3) PROPOSAL CONTEMPLATES CONSIDERABLE ROLE FOR EXPERTS AND

PRIVATE SECTOR WHEN WHAT IS INDICATED IS GREATER GOVERNMENTAL INVOLVEMENT IF SIGNIFICANT ACTION IS TO BE ACHIEVED; (4) NO MENTION IS MADE OF U.S. COMMITMENT TO CODE OF CONDUCT GOVERNING MNC TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY OR TO FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT LATIN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT OF ITS S/T CAPABILITIES. FAILING TO UNDERSTAND THE SCOPE OF OUR CSTT PROPOSAL MANY DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED DISILLUSIONMENT AT CONTRAST BETWEEN WHAT THEY CONSIDERED TO BE A KISSINGER-STYLE OPENING SPEECH AND UNIMAGINATIVE WORKING PAPER ON CSTT.

3. MEXICAN DELEGATE SOUGHT US OUT AFTER WORKING SESSION TO EXPLAIN THEIR PROPOSAL. IN BRIEF IT IS AN ELABORATELY CONTRIVED MECHANISM FOR CHANNELLING USG DEVELOPED TECHNOLOGY TO LA COUNTRIES THROUGH A NEWLY ESTABLISHED AGENCY CREATED WITHING USG FOR THIS PURPOSE. RECIPIENTS WOULD BE CORRESPONDING LA NATIONAL AGENCIES. PROPOSAL ALSO CONTEMPLATES ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON TECHNOLOGY WHICH AT REGIONAL LEVEL WOULD PROMOTE ADAPTATION OF TECHNOLOGY TO INDIVIDUAL LA COUNTRY NEEDS. ADAPTATION WOULD BE CARRIED OUT THROUGH COMMISSION'S OWN FACILITIES (TO BE ESTABLISHED) AS WELL AS BY ENLISTING COOPERATION OF SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE) IN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES. MEXICAN PROPOSAL IMPLIES A FAR-RANGING RESTRUCTURING OF METHODS NOW USED BY US AGENCIES TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY AND WOULD CENTRALIZE THE TRANSFER PROCESS IN SINGLE GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS IN U.S. AND LA COUNTRIES.

4. FOLLOWING MORNING WORKING SESSION IN WHICH U.S. PROPOSAL FOR CSTT WAS SO SEVERELY CRITICIZED, LA'S CAUCUSED AND BY AFTERNOON PRODUCED A CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSAL FOR END PRODUCT OF THIS WORKING GROUP SESSION. WHAT CHEMISTRY PRODUCED THIS DOCUMENT WE ARE NOT SURE, BUT IT REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD REACHING A CONSENSUS ON WORK PROGRAM OF THE WORKING GROUP. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE:

A. THE LA'S RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO DEVELOP NATIONAL POLICIES ON S/T, TO LINK THE PRODUCERS OF TECHNOLOGY WITH THE USERS, AND TO STRENGTHEN THEIR S/T INSTITUTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

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B. THE THREE OBJECTIVES OF INTER-AMERICAN COOPERATION IN S/T ARE DFINED AS: (1) TO STRENGTHEN LATIN AMERICAN R/D CAPABILITIES; (2) TO UTILIZE THE S/T POTENTIAL OF COUNTRIES BELLONGING TO THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM TO HELP FIND SOLUTIONS TO SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF LA COUNTRIES; (3) TO BETTER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY.

C. THERE IS A NEED FOR A GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM TO WORK TOWARD THESE OBJECTIVES.

D. THREE TASK FORCES CORRESPONDING TO EACH OF THE OBJECTIVES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO STAFF OUT WHAT MIGHT BE DONE IN EACH FIELD.

E. THE TASK FORCE REPORTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND CIRCULATED AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS BY THE END OF OCTOBER, 1974, AND BY THE END OF NOVEMBER THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD RECONVENE TO PREPARE THE FINAL REPORT TO THE MARCH, 1975 MFM.

5. U.S. DELEGATION COMPLIMENTED LA'S ON THEIR INITIATIVE AND INDICATED THAT WITH CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS WE ACCEPT THEIR DRAFT. PRINCIPAL MODIFICATIONS REFERRED TO ARE:

A. INCLUSION OF PARAGRAPH REAFFIRMING U.S. INTENTION TO ASSIST LA IN DEVELOPING ITS S/T CAPABILITIES AND FACILITATING TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY.

B. SPELLING OUT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EACH TASK FORCE, AND

C. ADDITION OF ONE MORE TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE WHAT TYPE OF INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO CARRY FORWARD THE OBJECTIVES.

THESE SUGGESTIONS READILY ACCEPTED BY THE LA'S.

6. TOMORROW WORKING GROUP WILL FOCUS ON DRAFTING TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR TASK FORCES AND REVISING LA DOCUMENT TO INCORPORATE OUR VIEWS.

7. FOLLOWING TODAY'S SESSION WHICH SAW LA'S ATTITUDE CHANGE FROM SKEPTICISM TO CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM, WE ARE ENCOURAGED ABOUT A FAVORABLE OUTCOME FOR THIS PRELIMINARY SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP. CRIMMINS UNQUOTE SISCO

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